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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/587,959	06/06/2000	Ari Ikonen		9612

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Clarence A Green
Perman & Green LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06430

EXAMINER

SLOAN, NATHAN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2614

17

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/587,959

Applicant(s)

IKONEN ET AL.

Examiner

Nathan A Sloan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 has been considered but is not found convincing. Applicant asserts that Bellamy is not directed at connecting a mobile phone and a television, however, even a cursory look at any of the Figures in Bellamy (Figs. 1-7) clearly shows a system providing connectivity between a telephone and television. Examiner interprets a "mobile phone" to be merely a phone that is mobile, such as one that can be moved from a location of manufacturing to a place of install in a system as depicted in Bellamy. This is addressed in detail in the following new grounds of rejection as necessitated by the amendment filed 4/16/04.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 17 objected to because of the following informalities: there is a lack of antecedent basis for "the link module." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-2, 8, 10-14, 16, 18-22, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bellamy (6,209,025).

With respect to claims 1, 8, 10, 13, 14, 22, and 29 the claimed coupling device is met by enhanced set-top box 5 which allows attaching a telephone 2 of Fig. 7, claimed “mobile phone,” with the television 1 to “extend the user interface.” As seen in Fig. 7 television 1 has a “first input to receive a first information signal in a first format” via line 16. Enhanced set-top box 5 includes a “receiver to receive a second information signal in a second format from the portable external device” by receiving telephony data via telephone line 14. Set top box 5 receives the “second information signal in a second format” from the telephone line 14 and converts the information signal into a third information signal having the first format to be provided over line 16 to television 1. This may be in the form of a pop-up provided window to the television alerting a user of an incoming telephone call as taught in col. 6:51+ through col. 7:8. Bellamy teaches use of any RF communications which encompasses low power short range radio for any of the links in the system in col. 3:10-16.

With respect to claim 2, the claimed “second input for receiving the first information signal to be relayed to the television device through said first output” is met by CATV cable 6 which inputs to enhanced set top box 5 for relaying to TV 1 through output 16.

With respect to claims 11 and 12, the claimed “portable external device is detachably attachable to a television device” and “means for attaching said portable external device detachably to a television device” are met by line 16 which connects to television device 1 via line 16.

With respect to claim 16, the claimed “first information signal comprising TV broadcast information” is met by CATV cable 6.

With respect to claim 18, the claimed input on the mobile phone is inherent to telephone for placing and receiving calls.

With respect to claim 19, the claimed “first information signal comprising TV broadcast information” is met by CATV cable 6.

With respect to claims 20, 21, 27, and 31 the claimed mixer to mix the “first and third information signals so as to cause the television device to simultaneously present information from both the first and third information signals together” is met as previously noted by overlaying information to alert users of incoming calls via picture in picture on the television broadcast signal for display.

With respect to claim 28, the claimed transmission of information from the video display device to the mobile phone is met as taught in col. 7:21-25 (see also col. 8:44-46) by transmitting various commands and phone numbers for dialing to the phone.

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With respect to claim 30, the claimed “using the display of the television device as a display of the mobile phone when the phone is coupled to the television device via the coupling device” is met as noted above by presenting a user with options to receive and dial phone calls through the television display.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4, 6, 15, 17, 23-24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025).

Bellamy (6,209,025) teaches an integrated video system.

With respect to claim 4, the claimed first output of the coupling device being an “antenna cable connector” is not taught by Bellamy. Examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of the invention to use an antenna for RF communications with a telephone. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use an antenna connector in order to simplify system setup, prevent users from having to connect wires, and make the system portable.

With respect to claim 6, the claimed “coupling device comprises an internal power source,” is not taught by Bellamy. Nevertheless, examiner notes that it is notoriously well

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known in the art for set top boxes to contain a power source. Examiner takes Official Notice that is well known in the art to provide a power source with a set-top box. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by providing a power source in order to allow set-top box to properly function.

With respect to claims 15 and 26, Bellamy does not teach a rechargeable battery for the portable external device and a battery charger to recharge the portable external device at the coupling device. Examiner takes Official Notice that rechargeable batteries and battery chargers were notoriously well known in the art at the time of the invention. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by using rechargeable batteries and chargers in order to appeal to environment-friendly users.

With respect to claim 17, the claimed "means for turning off circuitry providing unnecessary functions to save power when the link module is not needed to pass signals from the portable external device to the television device" is not taught by Bellamy. Examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of the invention to include a power switch on devices. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by including a power switch in order to save costs associated with having the power constantly on.

With respect to claim 23, Bellamy teaches replacing an image on the video display device with a display image of the mobile phone by displaying incoming caller ID information from the telephone as taught in col. 6:51-54 and 64+ through col. 7:1.

With respect to claims 24, Bellamy teaches the claimed voice as noted above via pop up windows and PIP as well as voice data as taught in col. 7:18-21 and col. 9:47-55.

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2. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025) in view of Allport (6,097,441).

Allport teaches a system with dual-display interaction with integrated television and internet content.

With respect to claims 7, the claimed "means for obtaining information from the first information signal" is met by Bellamy inherently by being able to obtain the signal and overlay information onto it as previously noted. In order to perform the overlay, at least video data must be obtained from the "information signal." However, Bellamy does not teach transmitting this information to the portable external device. Allport teaches receiving primary and associated data at a base station unit (col. 9:45+) and transmitting associated data to a user hand-held device, claimed "external device." Allport also teaches RF communications (col. 10:15-21) and it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by the teachings of Allport in order to provide extra information on a remote display for the enjoyment of viewers.

3. Claims 3, 5, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025) and in view of Bodle (GB 2,266,637).

With respect to claims 3 and 25, Bellamy does not teach that the claimed first output is a "SCART-connector." Bodle teaches the use of SCART connectors for connecting a variety of audio-visual equipment on page 2, lines 3-17. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by including a SCART connector as taught by Bodle in order to provide bi-directional connection of audio/visual signals amongst system components in European networks.

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With respect to claim 5, the claimed coupling device comprising "a switch to disconnect the first information signal from said first output when the coupling device is communicating with said portable external device and to connect the first information signal to said first output when the coupling device is not communicating with said external portable device" is not explicitly taught by Bellamy. Bodle clearly teaches switched connectors for connecting a plurality of devices using SCART sockets on page 8, lines 20+ and page 9 where a selected source is switched on, ie, a second input from a first output is connected and a separate source is disconnected. This may occur with a remote control device, television, vcr, and various other audio/video components as taught on pages 11-12 of Bodle. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by including SCART connector switching means as taught by Bodle in order to perform disconnection and reconnection of plugs and sockets associated with audio and/or video components without the need for mechanical switching as taught on page 3, lines 19-27 of Bodle.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan A Sloan whose telephone number is (703) 305-8143. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703)305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NAS


JOHN MILLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600